

Dear Mr G. - This came by Mr. Hovey from Pillsbury.  
You will see he marks the 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> pages for the Liberator.  
It is a racy & keen notice of the Exeter Hall Meeting of the B. & F.  
A. S. Society. - Please keep this carefully & return to me.

Amel May Jr  
Boston

Massachusetts.





ms. B.1.6 v. 5, p. 24



May prefer sharply  
 in the higher  
 est terms  
 of your  
 friendly  
 & sympathetic  
 & cheering letters  
 to tell her  
 allow me  
 to write  
 with her  
 in thank  
 ing you  
 for them  
 I am  
 letting all  
 my letters  
 go to be  
 directed  
 now to  
 care of  
 Mr. Webb  
 He & all  
 always  
 correspond  
 directly  
 to  
 Lehigh  
 will be  
 for me  
 with a  
 line.  
 to you  
 are Steph  
 & Albert  
 Fort  
 please  
 tell them they  
 are most affection-  
 ately remembered  
 ed. -

Dear Friend May -

I do not know but you have just  
 cause to complain of me, for not writing  
 you more, & often than I have, since com-  
 ing to this country. But the truth is, it  
 costs me an effort to write a letter worth  
 reading; & so in my present state of health,  
 it is not often attempted. My own family  
 must not be neglected, and then a great  
 many letters, [not too many] come to me from  
 different persons in this country, & from the  
 continent, requiring answers; so that after  
 all, no day passes without more or less writ-  
 ing, as much probably as it will for me in  
 my present state of health.

My recovery is not very rapid.  
 Indeed for a month, I have scarcely improved  
 at all. I am well enough to be abroad, to  
 do considerable at sight seeing. have a good  
 appetite, & sleep pretty well. But my side  
 troubles me a good deal. My breathing is  
 still somewhat irregular. (though on the whole  
 rather improving) And then I have as yet  
 great want of regularity & efficiency in the di-  
 gestive system - the consequence of <sup>which</sup> is, a consid-  
 erable <sup>irregularity</sup> of my old acquaintances cold feet and  
 headache. I think nothing has been lost  
 in the last month; and probably little has  
 been gained. Paris, with Paris living & sight  
 seeing, is not the best resort for invalids.



[The last ten days, I have spent in London - The weather for the most part, "balanced very well", and consequently, my time was <sup>been</sup> very much occupied, & passed very rapidly - One event only was however of sufficient importance to interest you, and that was the anniversary of the British and Foreign Anti Slavery Society. It was held in Exeter Hall on the evening of the 22 of last month, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the Chair - The Speakers advertised were "Rev. Richard Burgess, B.D. of Chelsea, the Rev. W. B. McKus, B.D., the Rev. S. R. Ward from Canada, the Revs. Thomas Hands and Mr. L. Binks, Missionaries from the West Indies, Parker Pillsbury Esq. of Boston Mass. U.S.A. and Professor Mr. G. Allen, late of New York Central College."

The Hall was not nearly full, and before <sup>on by</sup> nine o'clock, many were leaving - The Proceedings were <sup>so far an anti slavery meeting,</sup> speaking <sup>mischiefs</sup> ~~generally~~ <sup>generally</sup> beneath criticism. That I have even perpetrated, that should have subjected me to an invitation to take part in them, is more than I can imagine - But so it was - I declined peremptorily, on account of ill health - but my letter miscarried, and so I was announced at a venture - For some reason, the old Secretary has <sup>unfortunately</sup> disappeared within the last year or two, and a new one has been appointed, <sup>inveigled, or seduced,</sup> & from him my invitation came. I know nothing of him personally - but he seems not to <sup>understand</sup> ~~know~~ that I belong to an Anti Slavery Movement and so City, which is utterly ignored, or remembered



only to be revised, by those who have made him their  
Principal Medium of communication. At the Exe-  
cutive Hall Meeting, the name of the Mexico Anti  
Slavery Society was not mentioned, nor one of  
its friends except Gerritt Smith - while the names of  
Chas. Sumner & Dr. Mayland were spoken of with  
the highest approval. But neither did the  
Secretary in his Report, nor did one of the Speakers,  
British or American, make the most distant allu-  
sion to the Am. A. S. Society, its supporters, its News-  
papers its Agents or any of its operations. One of  
the Speakers, a Minister from Ohio, said something  
of the Am. Tract Soc. & the Am. Bd. of Com. for F. O. Mis-  
sions as having done something to free Slavery, the  
former by suppressing Anti Slavery sentiments in its  
publications, the latter by admitting slaveholders to the Mis-  
sion Churches. But the ~~Anti-Slavery~~ <sup>with all its A. S. professions,</sup> British Bazaar  
in its report of the Speech, takes good care to leave out  
every word & syllable of this part of it. <sup>The A. S. Report does the same, but provides the whole speech</sup> Most of the Speakers  
exhibited an utter ignorance of the whole sub-  
ject for which the Meeting proposed to be called.  
Not a single Speech went to the root of the  
evil - Not one would not have been called time  
in even a Free Soil Meeting in Massachusetts.  
<sup>To me it all appeared a fallacy - a mere make believe - & I thought it was generally so regarded.</sup>  
George Thompson & Mr. Will Brown were both  
in town - were both in the Meeting, but nei-  
ther was invited or permitted to take any part  
in the transactions of the occasion. <sup>I was glad they were not.</sup> I may be mis-  
taken in my conclusions - I may be wholly disqualified to  
form any judgment in the case - And I am not  
desirous to influence any body's opinion - But I have  
no hesitation in giving it at my own conviction,



that the only real obstacle to the spread of Anti Slavery light & truth on this side the Atlantic, is the British & Foreign Anti Slavery Society, in so far as it has any influence to exert, or power to act on the public mind & heart. ]

I have just been looking over what I have written, & have drawn brackets round the best two pages, thinking that perhaps they might be worth a corner in the Liberator - You may submit the matter with my most affectionate regards to Mr. Garrison, telling <sup>him</sup> the reason I do not write more for the Am. Anti S. papers as you find it in the first part of this letter - And, am writing so badly to you, as to feel almost ashamed to let you see the pages - But I have had too many proofs of your goodness, not to know that you will give me every indulgence.

I saw but little of the Chapmans & Westons - They seemed well & happy, except Lucie & she is improving. Mrs. Mossie honored <sup>the day before</sup> my yesterday with a long call at my lodgings, & urged me strongly to make her a visit - This I could not do at present. She is full of the Trinity & Atonement, the Inspiration of the <sup>whole</sup> Bible & other Calvinistic doctrines, & defends them with a Master's power - I could scarcely get in a word Edgewood, & indeed did not many times attempt it.

Mrs. Toller I have not seen, nor Misses Caroline & Lucie Weston - I am now at Mr. Bishop's, & this morning he has brought me letters from Miss Estlin & R. S. Webb. The latter is coming over to night to see the Hoveys off, & then go with me & Miss Mortimer. She has strongly invited me in three letters, to make her a good long visit, to be "cheered & merited, by me & my maids." Geo. Thompson also expects to arrive here to night or in the morning.

Miss Estlin is as good as ever - And that is as good as the good God could make. I wish she would spend more time on such as she is - & let the Victorias, Eugénias & other gold leaf butterflies, all crystallize up from moths & maggots. They deserve no better origin.

[I have just had the pleasure of arding in the escape of a slave from a Charleston S.C. Ship - He secured himself on board, & kept hid till far out to sea. The Capt. had made all arrangements to send him right back - but we have robbed him of his prey - It was a providence almost, that we heard of him.]

You have much to pardon in the haste of this letter. But I dare trust to your goodness. If you print the pages proposed please let Mr. Livingston fill out my abbreviations, & make it as intelligible as possible - You don't know what malediction Mrs. Mossie poured ~~at~~ upon that meeting & she has written many letters already to Scotland and elsewhere, protesting against it.

With a friend & brother's love to you to Mrs. May & subscribers at even, & I trust forever -  
Parker Pillsbury

My wife speaks